

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

New York March 14, 1932.

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
6450 Cecil Avenue,
St. Louis 5, Missouri

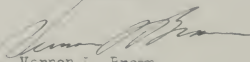
Dear Mr. Newman:

One of our good customers has asked us if we could secure for him one or more specimens of the John Law's "Mississippi Bubble Money."

I have checked with Mr. Wayne Raymond and while he has several of different denominations he does not wish to break up his set. He suggested that perhaps you might have a few of these notes for sale. If so, we would appreciate your sending them to us on approval together with information as to their cost.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Vernon L. Brown
Curator

March 18, 1952

Mr. Vernon L. Brown, Curator
The Chase National Bank
Museum of Moneys of the World
37 Wall Street
New York 15, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

It is always nice to hear from you and I will do whatever I can to help your customer. The only thing that bothers me is that I do not know what you really want. There are some 1720 coins sponsored by the Mississippi Company in France, but as to paper money notes I do not know what you are referring to as having an association with the Mississippi Company. In your exhibit you state that you have Mississippi Bubble Money and I wonder whether those are notes or coins.

Please let me know exactly what is wanted and I will do my best to be of help.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

New York March 24, 1952.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter of March 18th, and
now you have me confused.

I never thought of the French colony pieces of
1721 and 1722 as being associated with the Mississippi
Company. Are these the coins you have reference to, or
were there other coins specifically issued by this Company?

The paper money we have reference to are the notes
that John Law had issued to finance the purchase of land in
Mississippi. When this venture collapsed it was referred to
as the "Mississippi bubble," and the notes as "Mississippi
bubble money". A photostat of the note we have in our Museum
is enclosed.

I hope this information will be of assistance to
you and if you should happen to have any of these notes we
would like to obtain one or more for our customer.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,


Vernon L. Brown

Curator

$\frac{1}{2}$ sou
10 sous } silver
20 sous }

March 27, 1952

Mr. Vernon L. Brown, Curator
The Chase National Bank
37 Wall Street
New York 15, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

I have always wondered if there was any real "Mississippi Company" money and was hoping that you knew of some. The records in New Orleans indicate there was paper money issued there but I have never heard of a specimen. Stock of the Mississippi Company was sold in France based upon the development of the Mississippi Valley area which France already owned. The venture collapsed in 1720 when the stockholders realized that the economic value of the area was a promotion rather than a reality. There are two silver coins of 1720, a 10 sol and a 20 sol, or livre, which are also supposed to be Mississippi Company money. I also have a couple half sou of 1720. I do not have any of the paper money of 1720. My own feeling is that these are all the regular issues of France and although the French economy was tied into the Mississippi Company project, none of the paper money or coinage issued in 1720 was used or intended to be used in America.

I thought I could find a duplicate of the 1720 half sou but I think I gave this to Fred Boyd.

My own feeling is that the coins, as well as the paper money of 1720, are merely French issues and it would be necessary to check the enabling acts to determine whether the Mississippi Company had anything to do with them. They were merely issued at the time the Mississippi Valley promotion was going on.

Page 2

Mr. Vernon L. Brown

March 27, 1952

I am going to Europe next month and perhaps I can locate some of these items over there. I am sorry I do not have any duplicates of the 1720 items.

The 1721 and 1722 sous were actually sent to and used in the French colonies, including the Mississippi Valley, but since the Mississippi Company had collapsed in 1720, there could be no relationship between them.

I am always glad to hear from you.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

New York April 2, 1952.

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter of March 27th, and I deeply appreciate the information that you gave me concerning the Mississippi Company.

I agree with you that the paper money of this project was probably never used or intended to be used in America. If you should run across any of these items on your trip to Europe next month, we would greatly appreciate your picking up one or more denominations for us.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Vernon L. Brown

Curator

April 21, 1952

Mr. Vernon L. Brown, Curator
The Chase National Bank
37 Wall Street
New York 15, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

I finally succeeded in finding a duplicate of the only coins which can be assumed to have been issued for the benefit of the Mississippi Company, namely, a 1720 1 livre or 20 sous. These are reasonably hard to find and I thought that it might serve your purpose to satisfy your man who apparently wanted paper money but probably did not know of the coinage issue.

If you want to give me something in exchange for it I would appreciate a list of your duplicates in the paper money collection from the states west of the Mississippi River. I would like to have a \$2 Bank of St. Louis note which I do not have in my set.

I hope that the enclosed coin will be of benefit to the bank in connection with your previous request.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

MUSEUM OF MONEYS OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

New York April 25, 1952.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

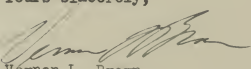
This will acknowledge your letter of April 21st,
and receipt of the French 1 livre or 20 sou piece, dated 1720.

You indicate that this piece was presumably issued
for the benefit of the Mississippi Company. We would appreciate knowing your source of information about this, as in checking in "Monnaies Francaises," that lists the coins from 1670 to 1942, there is catalogued under the French Colonies a silver livre of 1720, but with a different reverse and inscription. In the old Scott catalogue of 1916, a piece similar to yours is listed under the regular French issues, but apparently it is considered scarce as no price is given.

We doubt if our customer would be interested in this coin as he is strictly a paper money man. However, as we do not have it in our Museum, perhaps we can work out some mutual exchange, and I shall send you a list of our paper money duplicates from states west of the Mississippi River. We have a \$2 note of the Bank of St. Louis, dated 1817, but no duplicate.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



Vernon L. Brown

Curator

April 29, 1952

Mr. Vernon L. Brown, Curator
The Chase National Bank
37 Wall Street
New York 15, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

I am leaving for Europe tomorrow and I merely wish to restate what I previously wrote you, namely, that there was no special money for the Mississippi Company. It is all regular French issue.

I think that if you are interested in some of my duplicates and you have a number of duplicates to exchange, we could have a field day.

While I am in Europe you might prepare a list of all of your paper money duplicates covering states West of the Mississippi and if you wish to include Indiana and Illinois that would be fine. I have a great many paper money duplicates also.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

New York

April 28, 1952.

IN REPLYING, PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Pursuant to my letter of April 25th, I am enclosing a list of the duplicate notes that we have from states west of the Mississippi River. You will note we have very few duplicates and that some of them are in very bad condition.

Let me know if you are interested in any of these items and maybe we can work a swap for the French 20 sou or 1 livre piece.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Vernon L. Brown

Curator

Duplicate NotesThe Chase National Bank Museum of Moneys of the WorldCalifornia

- 3- San Francisco
Pioneer Days Company, Panama Pacific International Exposition 1915.
5, 10, 50 zones.
- 5- Riverside
Asso. Banks of Riverside, California- \$1, \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, Nov. 25, 1907.

Louisiana

- 2- New Orleans
I. L. Wilbur 25 cents, 1862
Patterson Iron Works, 50 cents, 1862, mutilated

Minnesota

- 1- St. Paul
Dayton Bank \$2 185-. Blank.

Missouri

- 1- Jefferson City
Certificate of indebtedness of the State of Mo., 1874, \$78. Mutilated.
- 1- Missouri Defense Bonds, \$50, 186-.
- 4- St. Joseph
St. Joseph Clearing House Ass'n. Dec. 2, 1907, \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10. Specimens.

Nevada

- 7- Austin
Manhattan Silver Mining Company, blank. 187-.
\$1, \$5, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100.

Nebraska

- 2- De Soto
Waubek Bank \$2 May 1, 1857, mutilated; \$2 May 1, 1857.
- 1- Omaha City
Bank of Nebraska \$1 18--, mutilated
- 1- ~~Omaha City Bank and Land Company \$1 18--. Blank, mutilated. Very rare.~~
- Tekama, Burt County
- 1 Bank of Tekama \$1 1857.

Utah

- 1 Great Salt Lake City
 Great Salt Lake City Corporation, 50 cents, 1863, mutilated.
 (Payable in U. S. Currency). Rare.

Wyoming

- 1 Evanston
 Evanston National Bank \$5 Dec. 12, 1907. Cashier's check-
 (Payable in Clearing House Funds). Blank, cancelled.

August 26, 1952

Mr. Vernon Brown
Chase National Bank
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

In your letter of April 25, 1952, you were going to send me a list of your paper money duplicates from states west of the Mississippi River from which I was to find some items to exchange for the 1720 silver livre which I sent you.

Now that the convention is over I am sure you will have the opportunity to do so and I merely wish to call it to your attention.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

EPW:mdd

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

New York August 28, 1952

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter of August 26th, and I was thinking it was about time you had returned from Europe.

While in France did you have an opportunity to check on the paper currency issued by the bank in 1720, that is commonly referred to as Mississippi Bubble Money?

As for the list of our duplicate pieces of paper money from states west of the Mississippi River, this was sent to you with our letter of April 28th. In case you did not receive this letter we can make up another list for you.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Vernon L. Brown

Curator

September 3, 1952

Mr. Vernon L. Brown
The Chase National Bank
37 Wall Street
New York 15, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

I have finally figured out why I did not see your letter of April 28. I had written to you on April 29 and your letter was filed when I was in Europe, assuming I had already read it.

I do not have the 4 St. Joseph, Missouri Clearing House Certificates, the Riverside, California checks, or the Evanston-Wyoming Cashier's check and if you wish to swap these for the John Law piece I think it would be fair.

I looked in a number of places in Europe for the John Law paper currency and most European coin dealers pay no attention to paper money whatsoever, as you know. I am going to write to Europe again.

Incidentally, I have found a very interesting write-up of the John Law finances including an illustration of the paper money in Volume V page 34 of The Narrative and Critical History of America, edited by Justin Windsor, published in 1889.

I have just finished writing an article on 1776 Continental Dollars which will be published in the Coin Collector's Journal within the month and you may enjoy reading it. I have also revised my list of die varieties of Fugio cents which will be published at the same time. I am working on a few additional articles and, believe me, I wish I were in New York to be able to work on them as it is so difficult to assemble the information here.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

The Chase National Bank

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
37 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 15, N. Y.

New York

September 8, 1952.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

1-20

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am glad you found my letter of April 28th, and that there were some items on the list that you could use.

Enclosed are the four St. Joseph, Missouri, Clearing House Certificates, four Riverside, California, checks of the Associated Banks, and the cashier's check of the Evanston National Bank, Evanston, Wyoming. We are pleased to exchange these with you for the silver one livre piece of France, dated 1720.


Thank you for giving me the reference on the write up of the John Law finances, and I shall try to obtain a copy of this publication.

I am looking forward to seeing your article in the Coin Collector's Journal on the 1776 Continental Dollars. Also, your listing of die varieties of Fugio cents. As you probably know, Damon Douglas has done a lot of research on the Fugios and I believe he plans to have this published by the A.N.S.

I hope the next time you are in New York you will have time to stop in and see me.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,


Vernon L. Brown
Curator

The Chase Manhattan Bank

New



York

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
RCA BUILDING, ROCKEFELLER CENTER
254 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

September 25, 1956

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

2-443

Mr. Eric P. Newman
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Enclosed is a tracing of a metal bar (probably type metal), which looks like it might have been part of a plate used in the printing of some Colonial currency. The inscription, "Counterfeiters shall suffer death" is different from that which appears on the Colonial notes of several of the Colonies. We are wondering if, in the research which you have done on Colonial currencies, you have come across this phrasing on any notes.

I have checked with Kenneth Scott and Fred Boyd concerning this item and they have been unable to give me any information on it. I would greatly appreciate it if you could help to throw any light on its possible use.

Will you kindly return the impression to us.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Vernon L. Brown

Curator

October 2, 1956

Mr. Vernon G. Brown, Curator
The Chase Manhattan Bank
125th Avenue of the Americas
RCA Building, Rockefeller Center
New York 20, New York

Dear Mr. Brown:

Your problem concerning the metal bar containing reference to counterfeiting is intriguing. I must know a few more facts before I can give the matter a further checking.

I am unable to read, from the rubbing, whether there is an exclamation point after the words "Counterfeiters Shall Suffer Death", and then "(101.)" might be "(101.)" Would you let me know the exact text as the denomination is very important.

I have checked generally the Colonial notes in my collection and my various research materials and have almost concluded that it cannot be Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, North Carolina or South Carolina Bills of Credit.

It is certainly none of the late Colonial bills and must be one of the early ones if it is on such a bill. However, please check a ten shilling note dated June 22, 1775, issued by the City of Albany. If you do not have this one in your collection there is one in the Amett collection in the New York Public Library. I have no information on this note.

I presume you noticed how similar this is to the style of the North Carolina notes of 1760 and 1761 but those are type set and yours is part of an engraved note. States like Connecticut, apparently, switched from engraved notes to type set notes. As soon as I hear from you I will dig a little further.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

KFR/atb

1

~~Handwritten text, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.~~

~~Handwritten text, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.~~

2nd 1847

September 12, 1958

Mr. Vernon Brown
Chase Manhattan Bank
18 Pine Street
New York 15, New York

Dear Vernon:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation in connection with my research. I certainly look forward to a picture of the coins which I picked out as well as the reverse of the counterfeit Massachusetts paper currency.

I have followed your suggestion and have written to California for the article on the 1933 scrip pieces.

I will certainly be lost without Fred. I was fortunate enough to be able to use his material for research at all times and to benefit from his guidance. When I saw you at the funeral I realized that you, too, must have benefited from his enthusiasm.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

The Chase Manhattan Bank

New York

January 19, 1959

MUSEUM OF MONIES OF THE WORLD
RCA BUILDING, ROCKEFELLER CENTER
1254 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

IN REPLYING PLEASE REFER TO

2-443

Mr. Eric P. Newman
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri


Dear Eric:

Enclosed are photographs
of the Missouri notes requested in
your letter of November 4th, together
with an illustration of our 8pence
Paul Revere note.

The 24 shilling note of
Massachusetts, dated 1775, which we
have on display, has a blank reverse,
so it is indeed a reproduction.

I hope these photographs will
serve your purpose and that you will
let me know if I can be of any further
assistance.

Yours sincerely,


Vernon L. Brown
Curator

January 26, 1959

Mr. Vernon L. Brown, Curator
The Chase Manhattan Bank
Museum of Moneys of the World
RCA Building
1254 Avenue of the Americas
New York 20, New York

Dear Vernon:

Thank you, very much, for your cooperation
in sending me the pictures of the notes.

My article on Massachusetts silver for ANS
is in galley proof form and will be published
shortly. In my acknowledgment I
naturally included you for your helpfulness.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

VERNON L. BROWN
136 EAST 55TH STREET, NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

July 10, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

This letter is being written on my personal stationery for one very good reason--last Friday, July 5, was my last day with the bank.

A few days after your visit to the museum, I had a long talk with the vice president in charge of public relations, and it was after this meeting that I decided to request early retirement. There is no need to go into detail, but I think that from the few hours you spent in the museum you could readily see some of the conditions under which I was working. The situation was not good for me, either mentally or physically, so thought it best to get out while in good health.

The past four weeks were spent with the auditors in making a check of the more valuable items in the museum plus a spot check on some of the other material. The auditors requested my services for this work because of the many changes that have been made in the location of items since they last made an inventory.

I have wanted to write and thank you for alerting me about the double struck 1795 silver dollar. Had it not been for your timely presence at the New Netherlands Coin Company, the dollar might have gone unnoticed as one being stolen from the Chase Money Museum. Your cooperation in this transaction is deeply appreciated.

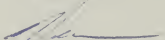
The discovery of this coin set off a chain reaction whereby the bank was able to trace who stole the coins, the dealer who purchased them here in New York, and the dealers to whom they were sold. In addition to the silver dollar, the bank has recovered the Sub-Alpine 20 franc gold coin, and may get back two of the other three pieces. The case has been presented to the grand jury and the thief, a teen-age colored boy, is in the custody of his mother

since he had no previous record. The grand jury has not yet announced whether or not the case is to be tried in court.

As for my future, I have no immediate plans, but I am looking for a connection either in or out of the numismatic field. I expect to attend the ANA Convention in Denver and might develop something there.

I thoroughly enjoyed our visit last month, and it was a pleasure to meet Mrs. Newman.

Most cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vernon L. Brown", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Vernon L. Brown

August 13, 1963

Mr. Vernon L. Brown
136 East 55th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Vernon:

It was nice of you to write me. I just returned from my vacation and am sorry the situation at the bank made it undesirable for you to continue. It was perfectly obvious.

I am glad to have done my little part in the recovery of the coins for the Chase-Manhattan but am surprised that the Chase does not thank me officially. I believe that if the case was open, the temptation was just too much for the young boy who took the coins and I do not think he should be prosecuted. When so much temptation is put in front of a person one just stimulates crime. I have now learned that A.N.S. is missing a rarity.

I certainly hope that something good works out for you. After your long record of loyalty and service you certainly deserve a good break at this time.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

EPM

February 7, 1964

Mr. Vernon Brown
Coin and Currency Publishing Institute
393 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10001

Dear Vernon:

I have a large file full of material on Brasher, and I am delighted that you are going to give a talk on the subject. I am even more delighted that you are going to do some research on the matter as there are so many things that are unknown, and should be known, and so many misconceptions.

The coin which Capitol purchased from the Horace Brand heirs was an entirely different coin from the coin which the Brand Estate sold to Fred Boyd. Boyd bought the piece through Johnson, in 1943, and whether that one was turned over to Yale, or to Mrs. Norweb, I do not know, but I believe that is correct. Brand did have two specimens and, if I recall correctly, he might have had the so-called half doubloon.

One of the things you should investigate is a quotation in the 1892 A.J.N., the source of which I have never been able to locate. It indicates that Brasher was employed by the United States Mint in 1792 and I believe it is completely erroneous and has been copied and recopied. There is no evidence whatsoever of it. I am enclosing a photocopy to help you.

There is also another source of information which is elusive. In a Woodward Sale Catalogue for February 1, 1887, there is a statement that the Boston Transcript has recently published an account of the Brashers. I have had two people look in the Transcript from 1885 to 1888 but to no avail. Perhaps this is the wrong newspaper and the other Boston newspaper should be checked as well as the New York newspapers for the period.

-2-

Mr. Vernon Brown

February 7, 1964

I have spoons with the identical Brasher counter-stamp on them as is on the coin.

As far as the Spanish Brasher Doubloon is concerned, I recommend that you avoid discussion of it as that is under very serious research by me and although Breen has approved it being okay, my opinion may not corroborate his. There is a great deal of misinformation published with respect to the Spanish Doubloon.

I will be more than glad, at the first opportunity, to check what you have assembled against what I have assembled, and I hope that I can be helpful to you.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

EPN

March 18, 1964

Mr. Vernon Brown
Coin and Currency Publishing Institute
393 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10001

Dear Vernon:

Has it been announced that your organization is going to publish the Bradbeer manuscript relating to Colonial and Continental paper money? Would you let me know what the situation is. I believe Arnold Perl was anxious to have this published.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC PL NEWMAN

EPN/atb



The Coin and Currency Institute, Inc.

Book Publishers

393 SEVENTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

WIsconsin 7-0370

March 18, 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

My research on Brasher has not developed anything new on his coins but I have found considerable biographical information on him, including marriages and city offices held by appointment.

I have not located any documentation for the statement that Brasher was employed by the mint. If, as claimed, he placed his initials on coins so that they would be more readily acceptable in circulation, why were not coins validated in a similar way by other goldsmiths for the same purpose? Surely Brasher did not have a monopoly on this practice. Perhaps the Brasher Hallmark was placed on coins for other reasons.

If Brasher and Bailey had received a contract to make coppers for New York State I doubt if the doubloon would have been minted. Apparently the doubloons were struck on planchets approximately the size of the cents made by New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Therefore, the die might have been made for the proposed New York coppers but I do not believe the doubloons were patterns. It does not seem likely to me that Brasher would have placed his name on a die for copper coins. Perhaps Brasher added his name later to the die and decided to strike a few gold pieces as souvenirs for people who desired a specimen of his handiwork. There was no need for him to place in circulation a new and different type of gold coin as the shortage in money at that time was in the low denomination coins.

In the A.J. of N. for October 1886 there was an article about a Brasher Doubloon that had recently been discovered by Layman H. Low. This coin was in a Low sale of June 27, 1887 and according to an Article in The Youth's Ledger, a stamp and coin magazine, of November 1887 the piece was withdrawn after the bidding reach \$200.00. I have not found any further

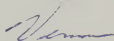
reference to this coin and I was wondering if you are familiar with the piece and what happened to it.

You might be interested in knowing that John Bailey, in 1784, conducted his cutlery business at 22 Little Dock Street, New York City. From 1778 to 1783 or 1784 he was in business in Fish-Kill, N.Y.

Factual information on the striking of the doubloon by Brasher seems to be non-existing. Do you consider this piece to be the first or second gold coin to be made in the United States? I believe it is the first as the Immune Columbia was over struck on an English guinea.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Vernon L. Brown

EPN

March 23, 1964

Mr. Vernon L. Brown
Coin and Currency Institute, Inc.
393 Seventh Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10001

Dear Vernon:

Enclosed are two Brasher comments I just noticed, one of which specifically states the die was made for a copper piece. I agree. I wonder who wrote it as there is no author on these articles and it was slightly before Low joined the firm.

I am most anxious for you to send me the description of the doubloon in the Low sale of June 27, 1887. Is it possible that this is the Spanish Doubloon? I am sure this sale catalogue is available to you at ANS or perhaps in your firm's library.

You asked me whether I thought the Brasher piece is the first or second gold coin to be made in the United States. This would be a speculation as the 1785 Immune Columbia in gold might or might not have been. There is a second Immune Columbia in gold which I am convinced was struck at a later date.

If I can be of any further help to you, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

March 10, 1964

Mr. Lester Merkin
515 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Berkin:

Belatedly, thank you, very much, for the photographic enlargement of the EB counter-stamp on the sovereign of Anne.

I will study it and report to you in due course.

Sincerely yours,

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN



The Coin and Currency Institute, Inc.

Book Publishers

393 SEVENTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

WIsconsin 7-0370

April 1, 1964

Eric P. Newman, Esq.
400 Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Thank you for the copies of the articles in the Coin Collectors Journal of June 1887 in which reference was made to the recent appearance of the fifth specimen of the Brasher Doubloon.

The sale of June 27, 1887 was conducted by Bangs & Co. and the material was catalogued by Lyman H. Low & Co. Enclosed is a description of the doubloon as given by Low, as well as a copy of the write-up on this piece in the Youth Ledger of November 1887.

Low edited the numismatic section of The Stamp & Coin Gazette and in the September 1886 issue states he secured this coin on the 8th of the present month. Apparently, from the publicity given to the coin by Low he thought it was genuine, at least until the time that it was withdrawn from the sale. It hardly seems likely that Low would have been deceived by the facsimiles, electrotypes and copies of the doubloon that were prevalent at that time.

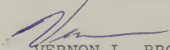
A catalogue of 1863 listed for sale a facsimile made at the mint by Dubois. Why would the mint make such a piece and release it for sale?

Do you have any information on where and when the Stickney, Davis and Bushnell specimens were discovered. The other three specimens appear to have been discovered in Philadelphia.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

COIN & CURRENCY INSTITUTE, INC.


VERNON L. BROWN

VLB:sr
Enc.

Manufacturers of Numismatic Accessories

Auction Sale by Messrs. Bangs & Co., 739-741 Broadway, N.Y.C.,
Monday, June 27, 1887.

Catalogued by Lyman H. Low & Co.

Lot No. 24. New York. Gold Doubloon, 1787. Sun rising over mountains on sea coast; NOVA EBORACA COLUMBIA/EXCELSIOR; BRASHER on base of inner circle. Rev. National arms, counter-stamped EB in oval on l. wing (as on cut) in wreath; UNUM E PLURIBUS/1787. Weight 408 grains. Really uncirculated, but showing slight chafing on most prominent point in centre, as from cabinet friction, having been in one family (in Maryland) for over fifty years, and never yet in a coin collection. Ephraim Brasher's name appears in the New York City Directory for 1787, as a silversmith at No. 1 Cherry Street. This valuable and interesting specimen of our early coinage excels any other we have seen (only five are known, including this); it is struck on a full broad planchet, unlike that in Bushnell Collection (sold for \$505) on which the date and letters were considerably cut by lack of width of planchet. A gem truly for any cabinet, and the second ever offered at auction. See Crosby, P.322, Pl. IX, no. 24.

April 6, 1964

Mr. Vernon L. Brown
Coin & Currency Institute, Inc.
393 Seventh Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10001

Dear Vernon:

In your letter of April 1, 1964 you asked why the mint would make an electrotype of the Brasher Doubloon and release it for sale.

Electrotypes were invented about 1837. Eckfeldt and DuBois, in the preparation of their manual, which was published in 1842, needed illustrations and the Saxon ruling machine could develop such illustrations by passing over the surface of a coin. It would ruin regular coins to let the machine stylus pass over them so DuBois made electrotypes for all the coins he illustrated. Being an expert in making electrotypes, he then made them at will. He made them of the 1804 dollar. He gave these away to interested parties, his primary agent for releasing them being William Idler. The loose practices of the mint were such that this was not particularly frowned upon.

I have no information on the source of the Brasher pieces you mention.

If I can be of any further help, please let me know.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

